

**TOWN OF HILL**  
**SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
October 5, 2021

**Selectmen Present:** Tom Seymour, Shaun Bresnahan, Christopher Gronski & Lisa Seymour  
(Administrative Assistant)

**Selectmen Absent:** None

**Public:** David Thomson, Thomas Angeley, Kathleen Angeley, Lee Herterich, Rodney Wood, Jeffery LeBlanc, Debi Langlais, Joann Irving, Donald Reese, Mark Labonte, Nathan Mills, Thomas Pavelka, Anne Blanchard, Christopher Vlitaz, December Fortin, Niki Mahoney, Karen Welch, Steven Laroche and Jillian Reise

Thomas Seymour brought the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**FIRE DEPT:**

Nothing to report at this time

**HIGHWAY DEPT:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**POLICE DEPT:**

Gordan Dagnall reported we virtually have no police department. He said Andrew Williamson would be more qualified to report on the status of the department. Gordon stated that he is working in another town and is making 25 % more than he is in Hill, so his time is limited here. Corporal Williamson tried to bring in an officer full time but it would be more than the approved budget. Gordon Dagnall was very appreciative that the Hill Police Department hired him. There are two issues with the police cruiser. It is not inspected as of September 30<sup>th</sup> and the Radar needs to be calibrated. Gordon stated we need more help. Christopher Gronski asked what he was doing during his shifts? Gordon said he was patrolling on Rt 3A for speeding, inspections, and unregistered vehicles. Christopher would like to see a report log of his shifts.

**TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:**

Non-Public

**HEALTH OFFICER:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Rodney Wood – Town Assessor came in to meet the Board of Selectmen and discuss the assessment process. Every 5 years the Town of Hill has a total revaluation and on the off years a section of the Town will be reviewed. The assessed values are determined by the fair market value of the property. Rod stated that property, including the buildings, are entered into the Avitar system to determine the values.

David Thomson asked for his weekly update regarding the meeting with the Chair of the Planning Board. Shaun Bresnahan stated that we had the meeting and Mr. Helmers told the Selectmen he wished to resign from the board effective October 15, 2021. Shaun Bresnahan asked David Thomson if we can consider the bone buried at this point. David Thomson said he was speechless and yes, this issue is considered closed. David Thomson said that he would be the first one to thank Robert Helmers for his many years of service. Christopher Gronski again stated we need more people on these boards. The Planning Board currently has four members which everyone would need to be there to constitute a quorum. Thomas Whitman is still on the Planning Board. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup>.



Joann Irving asked why aren't people coming to the Town Meetings to voice their opinions on these issues?

Christopher Gronski stated he has no problem in cutting the Police Department. However, we have to have something but not sure what. Mark Labonte said that we are not in this alone and that a lot of the surrounding towns have the same issues in staffing their Police Department.

Christopher Gronski has questions in respect to what the townspeople are being assessed on and how does Rod Wood determine what is a permit structure. Lisa Seymour will reach out to Rod Wood to get clarification on permanent structures versus non-permanent structure.

Questions were asked after presenting a Yield Tax Warrant for Jeffery LeBlanc. Christopher Vlitass said he is already taxed on timber with his property tax so why was paying a second tax? Yield Tax for timber is after harvesting the trees from the land. David Thomson asked what can be cut and not have to pay Yield Tax? Shaun Bresnahan said you can have up to 10 cords or 10,000 board feet for personal use. Trees that are within two feet of the house aren't taxed.

Steven Guyotte – Building Permit had a discrepancy and he emailed with concern about the building on 238 Murray Hill. He stated that it's not a permanent building because he plans on taking it with him when he moves. The Selectmen agreed that the structure was attached to another building and was considered an extension of that structure.

Questions were asked why we need a building permit to remove a building? It is the only way the Assessing office knows to remove it from your property and lower the assessed value and related property tax.

Paul and Ellen Guild 40 Shop Road inquired on the status of the sewerage issue on 20 Shop Road. This has been going on for 3-1/2 years and the last time it was known to have been pumped was September 2019. The Guilds stated that it is still running down the hill onto their property. Lisa Seymour will reach out Corporal Williamson for the status of the court case. In a letter from the Guilds on July 18, 2020 it stated that on February 24, 2020, Christopher Smith, sole owner of 20 Shop Road, Hill NH was told by the judge in Franklin Court, that he had six months to fix the problem. The sample that was sent to Concord tested positive for ecoli and was 4 times over the maximum allowed. There is currently 3 adults and 1 child living in the house. Robert Dupuis said that they Feds would be responsible. Thomas Seymour will research this and correspond with the Guilds.

The Bridge on Shop Road has been closed because it is unsafe. The Selectmen were shown pictures of the under deck and deemed it unsafe for vehicular travel. The Highway Department did place a sign stating the bridge was closed. The Guilds have placed another sign at the top of the road because when Old Village was opened, they had a lot of traffic turning around in their yard.

Lee Herterich asked if something can be done where Dearborn Road meets Boot Jack because when you are coming down Dearborn it's dangerous with the trucks coming from the pit. He would like to see a sign put up saying Caution trucks entering.

Thomas Pavelka asked about the explosion that was loud and shook his house. The Guilds said that they felt it on Shop Road, David Thomson said I felt it at my place on RT 3A at SDS Cycles. This was posted on Facebook that some of the residents stated that their animals were shaken and very scared also it frightens the children as well.

Parks & Rec presented their budget for 2022. They are going with a flat budget. Thomas Seymour asked about the equipment rental why is this for \$945 and you only spent \$302 this year? December Fortin explained that they had to remove the Porta-Potty earlier than expected because of needles that were found in it. December Fortin also explained that the TTCC will not have any catchup for the Town of Hill so the \$10,679 will be the amount going forward. Park Maintenance this year included Niki Mahoney and the members of Parks & Rec planted plants and trees at the pond and also did mulch around them. Next year they will have to have another load of bark mulch to keep the area



looking good. They are not looking for any major projects for 2022. A question was asked about the Merry Go Around and if this is currently working? Yes, it is working but if it breaks again, Parks & Rec will not be replacing it. The cost would be over \$15,000. Thomas Seymour asked if they were confident that they have budgeted enough? The answer was yes. The other question was what would happen if don't get the amount that you are budgeting for? December Fortin said there would be no TTCC and this is where the Hill children go for their sports and after school activities.

Thomas Seymour made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session at 8:13 pm seconded by Shaun Bresnahan. Motion passed unanimously. (RSA 91-A:3, II(d))

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to leave nonpublic Session and return to public session at 8:45pm seconded by Christopher Gronski. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made not to seal the minutes passed unanimously.

## **BOARD BUSINESS:**

### **Building Permits:**

Steven Richard 1163 Murray Hill Road Map R4 Lot 04 – 32' x 12' deck

### **Intent To Cut**

Yield Tax Warrant – Jeffery LeBlanc needs to be correct the board footage and reprint

### **Other:**

Selectmen Meeting Minutes September 21, 2021 – Signed

Selectmen Public Hearing Minutes September 21, 2021 – Signed

Selectmen Meeting Minutes September 27, 2021 –

Pistol Permit – Completed and Approved

Police Budget – County Court fees will be increasing for the FY22 Budget they were \$1,150 and in 2022 they will be \$1,323 which is a 15% increase.

Aflac will be here on October 6<sup>th</sup> at noon to do a presentation on their services and will provide lunch

Eversource provided a three week look ahead schedule:

Week of October 4<sup>th</sup> Old Town Road preparation at structure 66

Week of October 11<sup>th</sup> Old Town Road drilling/foundation 66

Week of October 18<sup>th</sup> Old Town Road foundations

Lucy Natkiel asked if they could put signs concerning Green Acres proposed gravel pit on the other side of Crescent Street across from the municipal buildings? Selectmen declined that request supporting the gravel pit. It should be known that the Selectmen don't allow any signs supporting candidates for office or any other events on town property as it gives a false impression that the Selectmen have elected support one position over another.

Halloween for Hill will be held on October 31, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm to include a trunk a treat on Commerce Street and followed by a flash thriller dance in the common area.

Thomas Seymour made a motion to close Commerce Street from the Fire Station to Crescent Street for Halloween. Shaun Bresnahan seconded the motion. The Motion passed with two votes and Christopher Gronski abstained. Christopher Gronski stated he doesn't feel that government should be involved with these decisions.

The MS535 Financial Report of the Budget was signed and filed with the Department of Revenue.

Lisa Seymour has reached out to Comcast to review Murray Hill Road for cable.

The Master Plan was last done in 2007 and needs to be updated. To rewrite the Master Plan, it will cost \$5,000 per chapter per the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

The Board had a discussion of adding a Selectmen Meeting for a workshop in order to stay on track for the upcoming budget process. Shaun Bresnahan made a motion the Board of Selectmen meet the second Tuesday until January. Thomas Seymour seconded the motion and all were in favor. These meetings will start at 6:30 and will be a workshop for the Board.

Shaun Bresnahan drafted a letter to be sent to Jeffery Lehman 42 Axtel Road covering the issues and taking care of this in a timely manner. Lisa Seymour included the vote to keep the Axtel Road as a Class 6 Road.

The Town of Hill Selectmen will hold a public hearing to accept the funds from the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (LFRF) from the State under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) per RSA 31:95-b on Tuesday October 19, 2021 at 6:30 PM in the Selectmen's Office.

Thomas Seymour stated that he has been researching the Elderly Credit Exception and will share this with Christopher Gronski and Shaun Bresnahan to review before we start writing Warrant Articles.

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to have the Highway Department remove the sidewalks on the North End of Mountain View Drive. Thomas Seymour seconded the motion. All in favor.

The 550-highway truck passed inspection. It is nine years old. The Selectmen were led to believe at the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting that the 550 would not pass inspection. Shaun Bresnahan will talk with Harold's Garage in Danbury on the condition of the 550 for the future.

With no further business to conduct, Thomas Seymour made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Shaun Bresnahan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously motion at 10:03 pm.

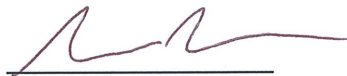
Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chair



Shaun Bresnahan



Christopher Gronski

